

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 /021 W

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R 011457Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2184

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2449

FOR ASST SECY MC CLOSKEY AND ACTG ASST SECY MULCAHY

KINSHASA FOR ASST SECY DAVIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CG, OREP (DIGGS, CHARLES)

SUBJ: CODEL VISIT IN SOUTH AFRICA

REF: KINSHASA 5879

1. I TAKE STRONG EXCEPTION TO REP DIGGS' MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO ME AND NAT DAVIS (REFTEL) AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE RECORD SET STRAIGHT.

2. REQUEST YOU CONSIDER PASSING THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO DIGGS EITHER IN WRITING, OR, IF YOU CONSIDER MORE PRUDENT, AT LEAST ORALLY:

"I HAVE RECEIVED THE MESSAGE YOU SENT FROM KINSHASA CONCERNING CODEL'S VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA. IT WAS A PLEASURE FOR ME AND MY STAFF TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO YOU AND MEMBERS OF YOUR PARTY. I HAVE CONVEYED YOUR WORDS OF APPRECIATION TO ALL THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN ARRANGING THE CODEL'S PROGRAM.

"I AM NOT PRIVY TO THE REASONS WHICH LED SAG TO DENY VISAS TO YOU AND TWO MEMBERS OF YOUR PARTY BEFORE YOU LEFT WASHINGTON. ACTING ON THE REQUEST YOU MADE TO ME WHEN WE MET AT THE AIRPORT ON THE NIGHT OF JUN 23-24, I
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ASKED THE SAG TO AUTHORIZE ENTRY FOR MRS. LESLIE YATES TO

ACCOMPANY CONGRESSWOMAN COLLINS. BOTH MY ACTION AND THE SAG RESPONSE, INCLUDING THE TWO EXTENSIONS OBTAINED FOR MRS. YATES, WERE TAKEN WITHOUT ANY REFERENCE TO ANY THREAT. WITH RESPECT TO MY UNDERSTANDING OF SAG POLICIES, I WOULD ADD THAT WHILE I HAVE A GREAT DEAL TO LEARN IN MY NEW ASSIGNMENT, MY APPROACH IS A REALISTIC ONE AS I THINK WAS CLEARLY REFLECTED IN THE PROGRAM WE ARRANGED FOR REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS.

"I APPRECIATE YOUR BEST WISHES IN MY NEW ASSIGNMENT. IF I CAN BE OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO YOU, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO LET ME KNOW."

3. FYI. WHILE UNDER SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS VAN DALSEN NEVER EXPLAINED RATIONALE FOR ALLOWING MRS. YATES TO ENTER SOUTH AFRICA AFTER THE INITIAL TURNDOWN, IT IS CLEAR FROM CONDITIONS IMPOSED ON THE AUTHORIZATION (PRETORIA 2358) THAT TRAVELLING AS DIGGS' STAFF ASSISTANT WAS MAIN STUMBLING BLOCK. WHEN I ASKED FOR PERMISSION FOR HER TO ACCOMPANY REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS, AS WELL AS IN REQUESTS FOR TWO SUBSEQUENT EXTENSIONS OF HER STAY, NO OBJECTIONS WERE RAISED. END FYI.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRETOR02449
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750228-0201
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750795/aaaadhcs.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KINSHASA 5879
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2003 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL VISIT IN SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: OREP, CG, (DIGGS, CHARLES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006